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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

CLAYTON-le-MOORS.

1946

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

HEALTH OF CLAYTON-le-MOORS

by

DR. A. DODD

and

J. H. BRIDGE.

Sanitary Inspector.

TO THE

CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT

COUNCIL OF CLAYTON-le-MOORS.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present the Medical Officer's Report upon the health of the Urban District for the year 1940.

This is an interim Report. It is intended that any items omitted will be dealt with in a Report at the termination of the war.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The area of the district is 1,060 acres. The population figure at the census of 1931 was 7,909; and the estimate of the population for mid-1939, as furnished by the Registrar General, was 7,016.

The general health of the population was good but there was a high incidence of diphtheria amongst school children during the year. Apart from an increased prevalence of Scabies I noted no definite evidence indicating that health had been adversely affected by war conditions although there was evidence of deterioration in the care of some children, probably resulting from the mother being engaged in outdoor work.

Unemployment decreased during the year. This, unfortunately resulted mainly from war conditions.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births.	Legitimate	91	48	43
	Illegitimate	2	-	2
	Total	93	48	45

Birth-Rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1940 ..... 13.2

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Still Births	5	2	3

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 51

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Deaths	120	52	68

Death-Rate per 1,000 estimated population 17.1

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES:-	Deaths.
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	nil.
Other maternal causes	one.
Total	one.

Death-Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births:

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	nil.
Other maternal causes	10.00
Total	10.00

Death-Rate of infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births	105
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	107
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages):.....	12
" " Measles (all ages)	nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	1
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 year of age)	1

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

CIVIL DEFENCE.

Further progress was made during the year with the General Scheme for the Civil Defence Casualty Service. Dr. Jessie Davidson, Medical Officer to the First Aid Post and Mr. Bridge, Ambulance and First Aid Party Officer spent an enormous amount of time and energy in the work and had the support of a conscientious following of volunteers. Mr. Smith, Superintendent of the Accrington Division of St. John Ambulance Association gave invaluable assistance in the training of personnel.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The ambulance of the Burnley Joint Hospital Board is used to convey patients to the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Burnley.

NURSING.

The Accrington District Nursing Association provides home nursing in Clayton-le-Moors.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This service is administered by the County Council. In May the Child Welfare Clinic was re-established at the Town Hall having been held since the outbreak of war at the New Jerusalem School and in July the Ante-Natal Clinic was re-commenced. The visiting obstetrician was away on active service.

Thanks are due to the ladies of the Voluntary Committee for the interest which they take in local child welfare and for their valuable work at the clinic.

The Child Welfare Clinic is attended weekly by the County Council Health Visitor on Thursday afternoons and the Assistant County Medical Officer attends fortnightly. The ante and post natal clinics are held fortnightly and attended by the County Council Midwife, Health Visitor and the Assistant County Medical Officer.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The school medical service is provided by the County Council. Medical Inspection is carried out by myself as Assistant County Medical Officer. There was little time available for routine medical inspection.

The main trek of evacuee children back to Manchester occurred during the last 3 months of 1939. There was some slight drift back in 1940.

The school clinics continued as usual at Rishton comprising , Minor Ailment, Orthopædic, Ophthalmic and Dental Clinics.

A notable feature at Medical Inspection and at the Clinic was the relative neglect of some children as evidenced by unkempt appearance, general uncleanliness, dirty underclothing and verminous conditions. The incidence of scabies increased. Neglect of attention to personal cleanliness allows this disease to become extensive before treatment is undertaken.

HOSPITALS.

No Hospitals or Registered Nursing Homes existed within the Urban District.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

The services outlined above are available for all and are, generally speaking, well used by all but a few. Efforts are made to secure a wider use of the Health Services by the personal recommendation of the Medical Officer, Health Visitors, School Teachers and others. Posters are exhibited at the Town Hall, Welfare Centres, Clinics and in the Schools.

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Accrington District Gas and Water Board undertake this service and make the necessary tests of the quality of the water. The supply was constant and sufficient.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

This service is undertaken by the Clayton-le-Moors and Great Harwood Joint Sewage Board, and extends to all premises save a few isolated farms. Periodical testing and flushing was carried out.

Scavenging is carried out by the Sanitary Authority under the Council's Surveyor's Supervision.

Further details regarding Sanitary circumstances, Housing, and Inspection and Supervision of Food, are contained in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified during the year and the number of deaths from the disease which occurred in the various age groups.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	2		2	1	1	-	-
	6		2		2		-	

The Tuberculosis Service for the area is administered by the County Council, and one of their principal dispensaries is only a few yards outside the boundary of the Urban District.

This dispensary is constantly open with a full clerical and health visiting staff. One consultant and one other Tuberculosis Officer of the County Council attend several times a week to see patients recommended for consultation by Local Practitioners or cases found by the Medical Officer in course of routine work in schools, ante-natal or welfare clinics.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

The table below shows the number of cases of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, notified during 1940.

Notifiable Diseases.	Total Cases: all ages.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria (including membrance croup)	24	18	1	1
Enteric Fever (including paratyphoid)	1	1	-	-
Measles, excluding German measles.	71	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	5	-	-	-
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	2	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	1	1	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	2	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	1	-	-
Total	107	21	1	1

In 1939, as was the case in 1938, diphtheria became prevalent in the Urban District towards the end of the year. From November 18th to December 31st, 1939, 15 cases of the disease were notified and one carrier of the disease who harboured virulent diphtheria bacilli but showed no manifestations of the disease. During 1940, 19 cases of diphtheria were notified, and 5 carriers. These were notified in the months indicated below:-

	Cases.	Carriers.
January	8	-
February	3	1
March	2	-
April	3	-
May	2	1
June	-	1
July	-	1
August	1	-
September	-	1
	19	5

The 5 carriers of diphtheria belonged to a large family. One had to be admitted to hospital on two occasions. All carried virulent diphtheria bacilli in the nose or throat. The aural carrier mentioned in last years report did not belong to

this family. The carriers state was proved bacteriologically and all carriers were schoolgirls.

Three cases of the disease occurred in pre-school children, 14 in children of school age, one case was a boy who had just left school and one case was a woman of 21 years of age. The 19 cases consisted of 11 males and 8 females. The majority of the children attacked attended one of two schools in the district.

The disease in general was not of a very severe type and was mainly faucial. One death attributed to the disease occurred during the year.

The Isolation Hospital at Burnley, was not able to receive all cases and some had to be accommodated in Isolation Hospitals in other districts.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

In May 1940, the Urban District Council put into operation a scheme of diphtheria immunisation for school and pre-school children. During the year 409 children were completely immunised against diphtheria and the table below indicates the number immunised in the various age groups.

Annual Return of Children dealt with under the Immunisation Scheme, 1940.

Ages-Years.	No. of children completely immunised.	No of children who ceased to attend before completion of course.
Under 1	Nil.	Nil.
1	5	Nil.
2	6	7
3	4	2
4	11	12
5	19	Nil
6	28	4
7	41	1
8	87	Nil
9	37	3
10	28	1
11	49	6
12	38	Nil
13	50	2
14	6	9
15	-	-
TOTAL.	409	47 (some of these have left the district)

The immunising material used was Diphtheria Prophylactic Toxoid-Anti-toxin Floccules. Three injections were given at fortnightly intervals. Reactions were few and mild a slight local swelling which disappeared within a few days. No Schick Tests were performed.

I thank the members of the Council for their courtesy and

hel.. and for their unfailing interest in matters relative to the Public Health in the District.

Yours faithfully,

A. DODD,

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Council Offices,

Clayton-le-Moors.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Clayton-le-Moors Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1940.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

The number of Sanitary Inspections made during the year were 111.

From these inspections 148 nuisances and defects were discovered, and 140 of these were remedied.

It was not found necessary to serve any statutory notices during the year to remedy the defects found, as the service of informal notices were deemed sufficient to have defects remedied.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

No. of houses using:-

Fresh Water Closets (connected to sewers)	518
Waste Water Closets (estimated)	1706
Pail closet system	7
Privy midden system	3

193 blocked drains in connection with slopwater closets were opened.

During the year 1 privy pail was converted to a fresh water closet, and 1 waste water closet to a fresh water closet.

No contribution toward the cost of conversion was made by the Council during the year.

ASHPIT ACCOMMODATION.

There are now 2228 houses with movable ashbins, four extra being added last year.

The collection of the refuse is carried out weekly by the Surveyor's Department, and is tipped satisfactorily at Butterworth Holme. Horse-drawn vehicles together with a motor vehicle are used for this purpose, and the tipping is controlled.

WORK DONE BY THE SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Ashpits emptied	7
Ashpails emptied	114,422
Privy pails ,,,,,,,,,,..................................	325
Loads of House Refuse removed to tips	1,615
Horse Carts of Street Sweepings removed to tips..	132
Hand Carts of Street Sweepings removed to tips ..	1,504
Tumblers of Gulley Refuse removed to tips	241
Houses Fumigated	22
Blocked drains and W.C.'s opened	193
Loads of Snow Removed	174
New houses certified as fit for human habitation.	4

UNDER THE SHOPS ACT, 1934.

The total number of shops inespected during the year was 71.

It was not found necessary to take action under this Act relating to ventilation and temperature of shops or to insufficient sanitary conveniences.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No special action was required regarding smoke nuisances arising within the district.

ERADICATION OF BEDBUGS.

The number of houses found to be infested were:-

Council Houses ....None.

Other Houses 4

Fumigation by sulphur and vermicide was carried out in these houses, and in each case it was found necessary to fumigate at least twice, after which no re-occurrence was notified.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The principle type of offensive trades within this district is soap boiling, and no action was required to be taken, as these works are very satisfactory.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

The number on the register was 54, and their condition on the whole was satisfactory.

The number of factories inspected with mechanical power 2

The number of factories inspected without mechanical power 3

The number of defects found on these premises were:-

Insufficient sanitary conveniences 1

Other offences .... -

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1940.

No. of new houses erected during the year:-

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	-
(i) By the local authority	-
(ii) By other local authorities	-
(iii) By other bodies and persons	4
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:-	
(i) By the local authority	-
(ii) By other bodies or persons	-

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The general observations as to housing conditions are as follows:-

There are no congested areas in the district, the majority of the houses are stone built with through ventilation, about a quarter of which are very old, and there are no back-to-back houses.

Owing to war industries very few houses were to let during the latter part of the year, and houses of all types were in great demand.

FITNESS OF HOUSES.

Owing to the nature of the sub-soil (clay), ground dampness exists in a large proportion of the older houses, especially in the living-rooms which have flagged floors.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, inspections were made, with regard to lighting, defective shippon floors, and inadequate dairies. At one farm the shippon floor was relayed in concrete and windows replaced.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936 and 1938.

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1939, in respect of:-

(Tuberculin Tested) Milk:-

(i) Bottling	None.
(ii) Distribution	None.

"Accredited" Milk:-

(i) Bottling	None.
(ii) Distribution	1

No. of licences issued in respect of "Pasteurised" Milk:-

Pasteurising Plant	None.
Retail Distributors	1

FARMS.

No. of Dairy Farms	9
Approximate No. of Cows in district	150
No. of Cow-Keepers (including dairy farms) ...	10
No. on Register	10
No. of Inspections during the year	20
No. of Dairymen (other than Cow-Keepers) or milk purveyors	34

1 Dairy Farm was closed, having been taken over for Industrial Developments.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

22 houses were disinfected during the year after infectious disease, and each infectious disease case visited.

Yours obediently,

JOHN H. BRIDGE,

Sanitary Inspector.